## U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/504,923

providing a substrate on a substrate holder in a vacuum atmosphere within a CVD apparatus; heating said substrate at a temperature range;

introducing a feedstock gas having a high temperature-melting point metal in its structure, and a reductive nitrogen-containing gas comprising a nitrogen atom into said vacuum atmosphere; and

forming a film of the nitride of said high temperature-melting point metal on said substrate, wherein a nitrogen-free auxiliary reductive gas is introduced into said vacuum atmosphere.

3. (Twice Amended) The process for producing a barrier film by the heat CVD method, comprising the steps of:

providing a substrate on a substrate holder in a vacuum atmosphere within a CVD apparatus; heating said substrate at a temperature range;

introducing a feedstock gas having a high temperature-melting point metal in its structure into said vacuum atmosphere; and

forming a film of the nitride of said high temperature-melting point metal on said substrate, wherein a nitrogen-free auxiliary reductive gas is introduced into said vacuum atmosphere, said nitrogen-free auxiliary reductive gas being introduced together with said feedstock gas into said vacuum atmosphere.

8. (Twice Amended) A process for producing a barrier film by a heat CVD method for forming a barrier film made of a film of the nitride of a high temperature-melting point metal on a substrate on a substrate holder in a vacuum atmosphere within a CVD apparatus, comprising the steps of exposing the surface of said substrate to a plasma of hydrogen gas and a plasma containing at least one gas selected from among argon, nitrogen and helium gases; and then forming the film of the nitride of said high temperature-melting point metal on the surface of the substrate, wherein the step of forming the film includes the steps of heating the substrate at a temperature range.

11. (Amended) A process for producing a barrier film which comprises the steps of: providing a substrate on a substrate holder in a vacuum atmosphere within a CVD apparatus; heating said substrate at a temperature range;

introducing a feedstock gas having a high temperature-melting point metal in its structure, and a NH<sub>3</sub> gas into said vacuum atmosphere; and

forming a film of the nitride of said high temperature-melting point metal on said substrate, wherein a reductive Si-containing gas is introduced into said vacuum atmosphere.

13. (Amended) The process for producing a barrier film, comprising the steps of: providing a substrate on a substrate holder in a vacuum atmosphere within a CVD apparatus; heating said substrate at a temperature range; introducing a feedstock gas having a high temperature-melting point metal in its structure

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into said vacuum atmosphere; and

forming a film of the nitride of said high temperature-melting point metal on said substrate, wherein a reductive Si-containing gas is introduced into said vacuum atmosphere, said reductive Si-containing gas being introduced together with said feedstock gas into said vacuum atmosphere.